

News from the **Technical Swimming Committee**

Welcome to the **October 2018** Edition of the Technical Swimming Committee Newsletter.

2018 State Teams Meet

Congratulations to our Technical Officials who officiated at the recent State Age Teams Meet and TO Workshop held at the AIS, Canberra –

- Jacqui Currey
- Kayleen Murphy
- Matt Neale
- Ben Ramsden
- Murray Smith
- Isaak Wilson
- John Rohloff (Mentor)
- Neil Rogers (NSW Team Manager)



From L to R: John Rohloff, Ben Ramsden, Kayleen Murphy, Neil Rogers, Jacqui Currey, Murray Smith, Matt Neale and Isaak Wilson.

Thank you once again to everyone who took the time to nominate. However, there were many more nominations received than positions available. SAL usually call for Nominations through an EOI around early May each year.

My Lane – Cherry Smith

What Club did you start your swimming career?

Peakhurst ASC

What Club are you with now?

Peakhurst ASC

What was your first TO credential and what year did you attain that credential?

Timekeeper on 23rd May, 1994

Why did you become an official?

Initially to assist the club with officiating on club nights.

Why do you still officiate?

Chlorine is in my blood now, no escaping that - no seriously, the same reason as when I started - to be of assistance to the swimmers, my club, my Area, my State and my Nation. Also, after so many years, the friendships that I have formed are lasting and enduring and I am now in a position to travel the world using the skills that I have honed over a long period of time... this at the moment, gives me the greatest pleasure - being able to represent Australia at an International level and hopefully, do my job well enough to let the other countries know that we are indeed the best officials ever and to assist athletes at the pinnacle of their careers.

What is the highest credential received? (i.e. Starter Level 1, Referee Level 3, JOS, etc)

I am currently in my second 4 year term as a FINA Referee.

What is your goal(s)?

One goal of mine recently is to learn more about Multi Class (disability) swimming. I attended the 2017 IPC Para Swimming Technical Officials Program and Swim Meet in Berlin, Germany, last year. My aim there was to bring back a load of information to share with other officials who are looking at going down this pathway with their officiating journey. This seems to be a mysterious chapter of officiating and I am seeking to better understand the rules and applications and to hopefully become a better official in this area. Of course since the Commonwealth Games, my pipe dream would be to officiate at Tokyo in 2020!

What is the highest level meet at which you have officiated? (e.g. Area, State, National, Pan Pacs etc).

In 2015 I was lucky enough to be selected to officiate at the FINA Airweave Swimming World Cup in Tokyo, Japan. As luck would have it (for me, not the Japanese official), the Japanese Referee for the meet was taken ill and I was asked to Referee at this very high level of competition - it was a fantastic honour to have been selected and although I was nervous, I was also extremely humbled to have been considered. More recently I was selected to Referee at the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast this year and of course, without a doubt, that has been the pinnacle of my career.... the opportunity and the occasion was huge and an experience that I will never forget!

With respect to your answer to Question 6, can you please pass on some of the strategies/tips you used to help you achieve your appointment?

Well I am a great believer in the maxim; 'If it's worth doing - it's worth doing well'. Only make a commitment if you're prepared to do it wholeheartedly. If you really want to progress to become a good official, whether that be a FINA Referee or Starter or an official at your Club, if you put your hand up to do the job, then do it to the best of your ability. The athletes are depending on you to give them the best opportunity to achieve, be that a PB on Friday night at club or an Olympic medal - to them it is their greatest achievement and you have volunteered to give them every opportunity to excel. Therefore, learn your rules, be fair, be tolerant - not everyone will share your views or have the same opinions - no wrong or right, just different. Every time you officiate, you are always and I mean ALWAYS being observed - make that count each and every time that you step out on the pool deck because the people who will put you forward for the positions that you are seeking will witness just that - that you are being the very best that you can be. Oh, and did I mention 'learn your rules'!



A big thank you to Barry Lovegrove and Gail Cauchi who conducted another very successful Announcer’s Course on 29th September.

Ask SAM

Don’t forget the NSW Online “Question and Answer” forum to help you if you have questions about Technical Officiating and training course content. The forum, called “Ask Sam” can be found [HERE](#).

Pool Deck Protocols

A reminder that the revised version of the Swimming Australia Deck Official’s Protocol (incorporating recent FINA Rule Changes) can be found [HERE](#). The Quick Reference Card, which has also been updated, can be found on this page.

Next NSW Meets

Nominations are open for the 2018 Summer Season, which include the following Meets -

Meet	Location	Dates	Closing Date for Nominations
SNSW Senior Metro Championships	SOPAC	1 st -2 nd December 2018	21 st November 2018
SNSW Open Water Championships	Sydney International Regatta Centre	8 th -9 th December	28 th November
SNSW Senior State Age Championships	SOPAC	14 th -19 th December	4 th December
NSW Country Regional Meets	Armidale Eden Wagga Wagga	26 th -27 th January 2019	16 th January 2019

To nominate, please click [HERE](#).

Recorder Module now Online

Adding to the list of on-line training courses, the module for Recorder is now available [HERE](#).

Congratulations

Congratulations to Cherry Smith and Chris Hayes who were nominated for Swimming Australia’s Technical Official of the Year and Local Legend of the Year respectively. Both have been invited to attend the awards ceremony during the Swimming Australia Short Course Championships in Melbourne on 27 October.

BBQ

A reminder that following the conclusion of the morning session of Senior State Age on Sunday 16 December, NSW will be hosting a gourmet BBQ to thank Technical Officials for their efforts during the past year. Please nominate to officiate for the meet on at least this day, in order to be eligible to attend the BBQ.

Winter Appointments Summary

To assist with the appointment process, the TSC keeps a record of the number of officials attending meets along with individual roles. Key statistics for the Winter Season include:

- Number of Officials that officiated (1 or more) 101
- Number of Officials that officiated (2 or more) 92
- Number of Different Referees 22
- Number of Different Starters 27

2018 Technical Official Development Program

The 2018 Development Program has now concluded after another successful year. Thank you to all the Technical Officials who participated, and the TSC is looking forward to your feedback. A big thank you to all the Mentors who guided our up-and-coming Technical Officials through the meets and to Faye Lewis who organised the Development sessions.

NOAP

Swimming Australia has advised that, due to an administrative error, the position of Finish Judge had been incorrectly included in the latest version of the National Officiating Program (NOAP).

Therefore, Finish Judge is not a requirement for Referee Level 1.

The QUIZ

August Quiz Answer

To recap on the August Question - You have been appointed JOS 1 for Session 1 at the SNSW 10 Years and Under – 12 Years State Championships at SOPAC. The first heat of the Boys 10 Years and Under 100 Backstroke is in the water waiting to start. After the start, you notice the swimmer in Lane 3 surface before the 15 metre mark, and then resubmerge. He surfaces again prior to the 15 metre mark. What do you do?

Answer

As JOS, you should report what you have seen to the Referee.

SW 6.3 states, “Some part of the swimmer must break the surface of the water throughout the race. It is permissible for the swimmer to be completely submerged during the turn and for a distance of not more than 15 metres after the start and each turn. By that point, the head must have broken the surface of the water.”

Following your report, the Referee decides to disqualify the swimmer, as once the head has broken the surface the first time, the start has ended and therefore the swimmer is required to remain on the surface “throughout the race”.

October Question

You have been appointed Referee to Session 3 of the SNSW 13 & over SC Championships. During the start of the first heat of the Women’s 16 Years 100m Butterfly you observe that the swimmer in Lane 5 was clearly not stationary before the starting signal was given. However, the Starter does not confirm this. *(continued over page) ...*

As Referee, what action, if any, can you take?

If you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please email Josh Karp:
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Swimming New South Wales Technical Swimming Committee
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